

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Page 1, line 3, please amend the paragraph as follows:

This application is a U.S. National Phase Application pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 371 of International Application No. PCT/US2003/041605, which was filed December 31, 2003, claiming benefit of ~~claims~~ priority to U.S. Provisional Application Ser. No. 60/437,200, which was filed December 31, 2002, which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety. The entire disclosure of each of the foregoing applications is incorporated herein by reference.

Page 45, immediately after claim 31, please insert a new page containing the following abstract of the application:

-- ~~ABSTRACT~~

The present invention provides compositions and methods for protecting tissues and organs from damage during transplantation or from acute ischemia due to, e.g., injury or surgery. The compositions protect the tissue or organ from acidosis, oxidative damage, ischemia and reperfusion injury while the organ is isolated from the normal circulation or receives inadequate arterial flow.--